

Tuesday Morning, June 23, 1874.

Proposed Impeachment of Durell.

Mr. Wilson, of the House Judiciary Committee, reported a resolution, last Wednesday, that Judge Durell, of Louisiana, ought to be impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. The specific charges were in the manner in which matters in bankruptcy were disposed of by Judge Durell and the mid-night order which placed Kellogg and party in possession of the State House. The one charge is of corruption, together with Assignee Norton, with whom he was intimate, in making extortionate and outrageously exorbitant charges against bankrupts; the other is of flagrant and corrupt abuse of his judicial functions. The charges of drunkenness and fraudulent transactions do not enter into the case. In reference to the mid-night order, the committee say they have fully gone over the testimony, and denounce it as an act unparalleled in the history of the judiciary of the country and meriting impeachment. There are two reports, the majority presented by Messrs. Butler, Wilson, White, Jewett, Eldridge and Potter; the minority signed by four members, including Mr. Tremaine, recommending that all proceedings be discontinued. Mr. Poland, of Vermont, submitted his individual opinion that, while Durell had no proper legal jurisdiction to make the order, he had not acted corruptly, but only weakly and without judicial calmness and correctness. And in regard to the undoubtedly corrupt practices of officers of his court, he thinks he did not share in the proceeds. But he sustained the impeachment, nevertheless.

It is noticeable that the name of Mr. Tremaine appears in the lead of those of the committee opposed to this proceeding. He is the same man who made the majority report against the South Carolina tax-payers' memorial—one of the poorest, feeblest and most contemptible papers ever presented to Congress; a mere rebash, with added venom and shameful perversion of truth, of the counter-memorial taken on by the Whittemore committee. He wants to cover up the record of iniquities perpetrated in the South, and to let off the criminals who have betrayed their trusts and inflicted untold injuries and wrongs upon Southern communities, in the name and while bearing the commission of the General Government. It is equally significant that Mr. Eldridge, who presented the able minority report on the memorial referred to, and showed a just conception of the intolerable wrongs perpetrated here in the abused name of Republicanism, and a purpose to instigate such proceedings as would in their effect efface the stain, takes side with those who recommend Durell's impeachment. Efforts will, of course, be made to prevent any objectionable action on the resolution. Kellogg is already on the scene, using every possible art and management to defeat it; for if Durell falls, he will not be able to stand.

It is amazing, when we consider the power of corruption, the facility in doing wrong, and compare it with the difficulty of holding men to the paths of rectitude, of correcting injury and retrieving error. Through one dark midnight deed of a wretched tool of a batch of conspirators, easily consummated, New Orleans and Louisiana have had a flood of corruption let loose, and a reign of vulgar tyranny and despotism fastened upon them for years, which have brought them to the verge of revolution, and aroused the interest and excited the fears of the whole country. And yet the Government haggles about the matter, and committee men pretend they cannot see, and partisans are perfectly willing to protract this agony and disgrace inflicted upon a noble and helpless people, rather than that the party shall be exposed and the foul deeds of its tools and agents unearthed. The steps of corruption and wrong are easily and quickly taken. Measures of justice and reform are slowly and reluctantly entered upon. The only comfort we can see is, that if justice is slow, she is sure.

It is a pity that some of her sister powers do not persuade Spain to abandon her bloody and costly attempt to retain Cuba. The situation in the island at present is more than ever deplorable, and the relentless conscription by Captain-General Concha is said to be producing a reign of terror. The Cubans have just landed one of the most important expeditions of the war, with 4,000 arms, six pieces of mountain artillery, and a large quantity of ammunition, and have established communication with Gomez.

"Gov. Moses and other State officials may be all that they are charged with being—and we do not say that they are not—but the rank and file of the Republican party in this State is honest, although it may not be as intelligent, as any party which ever upheld a political banner in any section of the country."—Union.

How men bow down and worship power! Even the power of declamation like Sumner's, power of stolid obstinacy like Grant's, power of the peculiar sort of Christian statesmanship represented by such men as Harlan, Howard and Colfax, have their admirers. Men must worship something, and if they can't find a hero, they fall down before a log. In the above quoted extract, it is "the rank and file of the Republican party in this State," whose honesty has won this genuflection. But, alas! the compliment is left-handed, after all. It is at the expense of their intelligence. Call a man a block-head at a German University, and you get a fight on your hands. It is the unpardonable epithet. Remembering this, we protest for "the rank and file"—some of whom we have known as both intelligent and honest before they were lowered from their humble station in life into the Radical fold—that they shall not be called fools in any such insidious fashion. As a piece of flattery, the honeyed words honest, although not intelligent, will not pass muster. Besides, how can you make out that 80,000 honest voters always put in power such men as "Moses and other State officials," as to whom you admit so much? How can it be that when you take the sense of an honest constituency, you invariably get as result dishonest and untrustworthy officials? It will not do to charge it as due to want of intelligence, for it happens with intelligent regularity and shows the system of arrangement and forecast. It comes from lack of spirit and manhood, rather from want of proper pride, which subjects the great mass of Radical voters in the State to the manipulations of a dozen, more or less, Radical bellweathers. Will they, like sheep, still follow these tinkling bells, now that any one, whether intelligent or not, can see that their sounds conduct to ruin and disgrace, to poverty and shame? If they do, they will indeed make good the Radical "insinuation" that they have no brains to spare.

THE CONFEDERATE RECORDS.—The House of Representatives at Washington city has amended the sundry civil appropriation bill so as to provide for the publication of all official records of the late war, including the Confederate archives. The new section reads as follows: "To enable the Secretary of War to begin the publication of the rebellion, both of Union and Confederate armies, the sum of \$15,000; and the Secretary of War is hereby directed to have copied for the public printer all reports, letters, telegrams and general orders not hitherto copied or printed, and properly arrange the same in chronological order." The amendment was unanimously adopted, and is favored by all, thus far. Senator Logan advocates it in the Senate.

SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.—We learn that on the night previous to the departure the next morning of Mr. Galvin, the ill-fated engineer, to take charge of the engine upon which he lost his life, that his wife had a most singular dream, which the sequel has proven did actually occur. It seems that on the night in question she dreamed that her husband was brought home to her with his legs broken and dead, and so impressed was she in consequence that the next morning she begged him not to go. To which he replied that the officers of the road would expect him to take charge of the engine and he must do so. He did so, and our readers are acquainted with the consequences that followed.

[Wilmington Journal.]

SAWYER'S SUCCESSOR.—The delay in filling the position of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury is attracting some attention. Mr. Sawyer has not for several days put in an appearance at the Treasury Department, and he announces that he is no longer Assistant Secretary. He does a great deal of wandering around, and is supposed to be looking for some one worthy to unloose his shoe-latchets, and will likely have as hard a time as Japhet in search of his father. It is understood that the position of Assistant Secretary was offered to Hon. John Allison, of Pennsylvania, the present Registrar of the Treasury, but Mr. Allison prefers his present position, and respectfully declined the offer.—Washington Letter.

The New York Times does not want to make a party question of the mess in South Carolina. Is there to be no responsibility, then? The condition of affairs in South Carolina is all that the Times describes, and is directly ascribable to the Republican policy. Are we not to place the cap where it belongs? Shall the country rest content with being told that if it does hold the Republican party responsible, it will get no redress? The course of the Times is altogether honorable and independent. But that circumstance should afford no shelter to the author of the villainy.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

The Constitution for the Tax Unions Proposed and Recommended by the Tax-Payers' Convention.

The Executive Committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention, at their late meeting in Charleston, adopted and ordered to be published an address to the people of the State, and a form of constitution for the Tax Unions. The address is as follows:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The Executive Committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention, in pursuance of the duty which they were charged, herewith present to you a plan for the organization of the Tax Unions throughout the State. The object of this organization is to put into effective operation all lawful means within our reach for the re-establishment of an honest and economical administration of government in South Carolina.

The committee do not deem it necessary to argue with you upon the urgency of the occasion, or the necessity of reform. The burdens to which we are subjected are greater than we can bear, and the proof is to be found in the fact that the houses and lands of the proprietary class are being forfeited to the State, in quantity and number without a parallel, from sheer inability to pay the taxes. There can be no stronger or more distressing proof of oppression than the systematic confiscation by the government of the property of the citizen for non-payment of dues too excessive to be borne. But when the moneys, extorted from the people under color of law, are also systematically and shamelessly squandered, plundered and stolen, another and more grievous wrong is added to the catalogue of enormities, and the very acme of the most vulgar form of despotism is reached. Such government forfeits all title to the name, and is no better than organized spoliation and robbery. It would be a slander and a stigma upon you to suppose that you will suffer this state of things, so destructive and ignominious, to continue, without exhausting every possible human effort to put an end to it. Your history, your traditions and your personal manhood forbid it; there is no need of reasoning about it—if you be true to yourselves, your instincts will all impel you in this direction; nor can you hope to redeem yourselves, without helping yourselves. Self-help will bring you all other help. We cannot believe that there are not good men enough of all parties in the State to rescue the government from the men that are bringing ruin and disgrace upon you, and to restore it to something of its former respectability. To this end activity, real earnest purpose, devotion to the cause and thorough organization are necessary. The Tax Unions will furnish the form of organization, but you must breathe into it the breath of life, and make it a living, active, efficient and pervading instrumentality for good. Especially should our young men devote themselves to this work. The future, its hope and destinies, are all theirs. If they do not try to shape it, there will be untold miseries in reserve for them—not only ruin, but shame and remorse, sure and perhaps too late. It is upon them that the blame will rest, for it is now their time to come to the front in this struggle under the law, as before they came to the front in the more dreadful issue of war. The same spirit and courage that stood them in stead then, will stand them in stead now. Their cause will enlist the sympathies of all good men throughout the country. To put dishonesty to flight, to purge corruption, to rescue the good commonwealth from the hands of those who have made her name a by-word and reproach everywhere, is a work well worthy of an earnest, concerted and persevering effort; and if it be undertaken in the proper spirit, and with a zeal and energy proportioned to the exigencies in which we are placed, it must and will be successful.

In conclusion, we beg to commend to your earnest, sober and faithful consideration these words of wise, patriotic counsel, from the address of their convention to the people of South Carolina: Let the honest and well-meaning citizens, one by one, be brought into the Tax-Payers' Union, and made to work for the cause of good government, until the State is redeemed. The act that attends the clash of arms is wanting to such a struggle, but no cause can be more worthy of the earnest, faithful and patient labor of one who loves his people and his State. A triumph like this is not to be won by a single decisive battle, nor, it may be, by many toil-some campaigns, but patient, enduring and honest work, sooner or later, will bring victory to your standards. No laurel wreaths may crown the victor's brow, but a ransomed and redeemed Carolina, a free, prosperous and happy people, will attest to future generations that, worthy of your ancestry, and true as they to duty and honor, you have taken up the fight in the darkest hour of adversity, and faithfully and successfully fought it out to victory. We conjure you, then, at once to organize, compact and work up the Tax-Payers' Union, until you anchor the State safe in the harbor of assured peace and prosperity.

JAMES CHESNUT, Chairman Executive Committee Tax-Payers' Convention, in behalf of Committee.

The constitution for the Tax Unions, as finally adopted, is as follows:

1. The object of the Tax Unions are the reduction of taxation and the honest appropriation and expenditure of the public funds.

2. There shall be in each County as many Subordinate Tax Unions as may be deemed necessary, but not less than one such Subordinate Union for each township or ward. There shall be one

County Tax Union for each County and one State Tax Union for the State.

3. Each Subordinate Tax Union shall have such name or designation as the members thereof may select, but each County Union shall be designated by the name of the County, and the State Union shall be styled "The Tax Union of the State of South Carolina."

4. All tax-payers in this State are eligible to membership of any one Subordinate Tax Union in the County in which they live.

5. Applications for membership must be made in writing and addressed to the Tax Union of the County. Such applications shall be signed by the applicant, or by his authority, and shall give the applicant's full name and address. The applications must be submitted to the Executive Committee of the Subordinate Union to which they are addressed, which committee may report thereon at any meeting of the Union, and a majority of the votes of the members present shall be sufficient to elect.

6. The officers of each Subordinate Union shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee of five members, including the President and Vice-President, who shall be members of such committee *ex officio*.

7. The Subordinate Unions shall hold regular monthly meetings, and shall have authority to hold special meetings as may be necessary.

8. Each member of a Subordinate Union shall pay to the Treasurer of such Union an initiation fee of fifty cents, and also such uniform per centage, not exceeding two per cent., of the last tax laid upon him for general State and County purposes, as may be called for by the Executive Committee of such Union, with the approval of the Union; and such per centage shall be declared and collected before the first day of September in each year.

9. The County Unions shall consist of two delegates from each Subordinate Union, with one delegate additional for every twenty members beyond twenty in each Subordinate Union.

10. The County Unions shall meet at the respective Court Houses, on the first Monday in July, October, January and April in each year, with authority to hold special meetings, upon the call of the Executive Committee of the County Union.

11. The officers of the County Unions shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at the first meeting, and shall hold office until the first Monday in July in the ensuing year, and until their successors shall be elected and shall qualify.

12. The Executive Committee of the County Unions shall consist of the Chairmen of the Executive Committees of the Subordinate Unions, who shall be *ex officio* members of the County Union, together with the President of the County Union, which County Executive Committee shall have power to elect its own officers.

13. The State Union shall consist of three delegates from each County Union, and shall meet annually in Columbia, on the fourth Tuesday in November, and at such other times and places as the State Executive Committee may appoint: *Provided*, That the first meeting of the State Union shall be held at such time as may be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention.

14. The officers of the State Union shall be a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Executive Committee and such other officers as the Union may determine to appoint.

15. The State Executive Committee shall consist of two members from each Congressional District, and the President of the State Union. The members of the State Union from the County Unions of the Counties composing each Congressional District shall nominate the members of the State Executive Committee from that District.

16. The State Executive Committee shall elect its own officers, and shall meet at such times and places as the Chairman, in his own discretion, or upon the written request of two members of the committee, shall appoint.

17. The actual expenses of each member of the State Executive Committee, in attending meetings of the committee, shall be paid, upon the order of the Chairman of the State Executive Committee, by the County Unions of the Congressional District which he represents.

18. The State Executive Committee shall make such an assessment as they think necessary, upon the County Unions, which assessment shall be in proportion to the amount of the last tax laid for general State and County purposes in each County, and shall not exceed 1½ per cent. of the amount of such tax; and the Executive Committees of the several County Unions, in order to meet such assessment and defray their other expenses, shall make and collect an assessment, in like proportion, upon the Subordinate Unions.

19. All funds received by the Treasurer of the State Union shall be deposited by him, in his name as Treasurer, in a bank to be designated by the President of the State Union, and no money shall be drawn except upon the draft of the Treasurer, countersigned by the Chairman of the State Executive Committee, notice of which provision shall be given to the bank which shall be designated as the place of deposit.

20. The State Executive Committee are authorized to pay the Treasurer, as compensation for his services, if they shall deem it necessary, a commission not exceeding 1½ per cent. on all money received by him, and 1½

per cent. on all money paid out by him.

21. There shall be prepared, by each Subordinate Union, a full and correct roster of such Union, giving the name and residence of each member, and also a record of the names of all the tax-payers within the township, ward or other district in which the said Union works. One copy of the roster and record shall be kept by the Secretary of the Subordinate Union, open for the inspection of the members, and a duplicate copy of such roster and record shall be sent to the Executive Committee of the County Union, who shall prepare therefrom a general roster and record for the County. A duplicate copy of each County roster and record shall be forwarded by the County Executive Committee to the Executive Committee of the State Union, the secretary of which committee shall prepare therefrom a general roster and record for the State.

22. This constitution may be amended by the vote of two-thirds of the County Unions, subject to the ratification of the State Union, or by a vote of the State Union, subject to the ratification of two-thirds of the County Unions.

JAMES CHESNUT, Chairman Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee also unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the delegations from the several Counties to the Tax-payers' Convention of 1874 be requested to proceed at once to the organization of Subordinate and County Tax Unions, in accordance with the plan now promulgated by the Executive Committee of that convention.

Resolved, That the County Unions shall elect, not later than the first Monday in September, the members of the State Union, which will meet at a time to be hereafter announced by the Executive Committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention.

Resolved, That after the organization of the Tax Unions it would be inexpedient, in our opinion, to re-assemble the present convention, and that if it be at any time advisable to call the tax-payers of the State into convention again, a new body should be organized upon motion of the Union.

Resolved, That this committee, before separating, take great pleasure in placing upon record their appreciation of the ability, impartiality and dignity with which their Chairman, the Hon. Jas. Chesnut, has presided over their deliberations.

JUDGE MACKAY AND SHERIFF YOCUM. The following is taken from the Windsor News:

An interesting correspondence has taken place between Judge T. J. Mackay and Sheriff Yocum, of Chester. Sheriff Yocum wrote to Judge Mackay that he could get no money from the County Commissioners, and that he had strained his private credit in supplying prisoners with food; that there were two prisoners confined. He called his Honor's attention to the fact.

Judge Mackay replied that he regretted the embarrassment of the Sheriff, but if there were no funds in the treasury he was without a remedy by summary process. He suggested that a lien be given on the crop of the County farm by the Commissioners. The Commissioners had officially informed Judge Mackay that Mr. Yocum presented an account for \$355, and refused to take \$200 in part payment. The County Treasurer also certified that he had already paid the Sheriff \$2,342.25, nearly one-fifth of the whole tax for County purposes, and more than double the amount ever drawn before in one year; this, too, in face of the fact that in January there was not a prisoner in jail or a criminal case on docket. The Judge, however, authorized the removal of one prisoner to York jail, and the release of the other, who was within five days of her time of release, unless the justice would provide for her.

Sheriff Yocum replied, denying that he had been offered \$200, and claimed that the same influences which had so long kept him out of his money were still at work. He claims that he has receipts for more than the bills he has presented to the Commissioners. He claims to have served more State papers in a year than had been served before in twenty. He also claims that there have been more prisoners in Chester jail this last year than in any two years previous since reconstruction.

We do not know what will be the upshot of the matter.

DEATH OF A BRIDAL PARTY ON MONT BLANC.—*Gallipani* states that a melancholy accident had occurred to Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Liskard, a young English pair on their wedding tour, set out with a party of friends to make an ascent of Mont Blanc. When they reached the summit of the corridor, the ladies felt the cold so severely that the guides advised returning. All were fastened together with ropes, and the bride set out, leaving upon the arm of a guide. Hardly had they taken 100 paces, when Mrs. Liskard and her companion suddenly disappeared down a crevasse covered with a slight layer of frozen snow. Unhappily, the rope by which they were connected with the others broke, and they were seen no more. The husband at once procured extra assistance from the Grands-Chaleurs, but the bodies could not be recovered, and are probably some thousand feet down in the mountain. Death must have been instantaneous.

Rev. Dr. Gaston and his son, of Passaic, N. J., caught a burglar in the act of entering his house, thrashed him thoroughly and then let him go his way.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX.

The mosquito season has commenced in earnest.

Luna gives forth her brightest rays nightly now.

To-morrow (June 24) is St. John's day—venerated by the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Talley has removed to the Columbia Hotel, where calls may be left for him.

The weather, on Sunday, was very pleasant, with slight showers of rain; but yesterday was a scorcher.

The Schuetzenfest in Augusta commences to-day. Several of our German fellow-citizens will be present.

There is a dog in this vicinity which keeps up an incessant barking at night, rendering himself a nuisance to the neighborhood. He should be looked after.

Sheriff Southern, of Greenville, arrived in Columbia, yesterday, with several temporary boarders for General Dennis. The Captain reports everything serene in the mountain city.

The stagnant water which has collected under the bridge, corner of Richardson and Upper Boundary streets, smells very unpleasantly, and unless removed, will, doubtless, cause sickness in the vicinity.

A colored hackman, named Robert Bryce, was thrown from his wagon, yesterday, and sustained a compound fracture of the collar-bone, besides other injuries. He was properly cared for.

The funeral of Mr. R. O. Shiver, on Sunday, was one of the largest ever seen in Columbia. Rev. J. K. Men-donhall officiated. There were over forty vehicles in the procession. The remains were interred in Elmwood Cemetery.

The cattle have discovered a new use for the wooden lamp-posts erected in different parts of the city, several months ago. They rub themselves against them, and then return thanks to the city fathers, after the order of the itchy Scotchmen and the Duke of Argyle.

It would be more agreeable than at present for pedestrians on Main street, if the parties who have control of the watering hose would instruct their pipemen not to exercise their skill in ascertaining just how near to passers-by they can stop their stream without actually deluging them.

Coggia's comet is now approaching the earth, and persons who know where to look for it can see it. Its tail is half a degree long, and resembles, to the heated imagination of the astronomer, a half-opened fan. Mr. McElrhone thinks he can see it, in the direction of the North Star. As he is up and about all night, he has excellent opportunities for observation.

DEATH OF MR. THOS. N. BROUGHTON. This gentleman, who is regarded as one of the most prominent citizens of Clarendon, departed this life on Sunday last, from an affection of the liver, at the age of fifty-seven. He held the position of County Treasurer for several terms—acceptably to the people. He leaves a wife and a large family of children.

A FUNNY DISPUTE.—The Columbia Union, having been twitted with receiving money from the Radicals, retorts by twitting its Conservative accusers with getting the lion's share of the spoil. Can it be that the preases of Carolina love more more than principle?—*Augusta Constitutionalist*.

Yes, sir. The records of printing bills paid show this to be the fact. "Ask us some harder questions."

[Columbia Union.]

So far as the PHOENIX is concerned, in our mildest language, suitable to the occasion, and having no fear of an "armed force," we pronounce the "insinuation" of the Union to be false.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
Meeting Columbia Lodge.
A. H. Daves—Rolling Stock for Sale
Meeting Eataw Encampment.
R. L. Bryan—New Books.
W. G. Brown—Furniture Repairing.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, June 22, 1874.—*Wheeler House*—B. I. Boone, Dr. W. C. Fisher, J. H. Runkle, H. D. Byron, L. Noah, J. L. Sloan, Jr., A. Hoge, city; F. M. West, W. H. Blackwell, N. C.; W. R. Sloyter, J. J. Spiro, N. Y.; J. Jenkins, J. H. Mancke, W. A. Bradley, Ga.; John Cauty, Camden; Eugene St. Amand, Charleston; A. C. Chalmers, Md.; A. Parker, Abbeville; Mrs. Rosseter, S. C.

Hendrix House—Thos. O. Ryan, S. A. Zeigler, Charleston; W. H. Pope, P. A. Sims, Va.; P. W. Tabb, Md.; P. Garey, N. Y.; W. D. Trantham, Camden; Miss E. Frazier, Edgefield; William Nelson Emlyn, city.

Columbia Hotel—J. W. Sprinkle, N. C.; W. H. Jones, L. W. Simkins, city; Wm. Y. Howard, West Point; T. S. Clarkson, S. C.; G. E. Reab, Augusta; J. E. Thames, Charleston; J. L. Southern, W. T. Shumate, Greenville; J. E. Thomson, R. H. Sieve, N. Y.; G. R. Lumkins, Va.; R. D. Summers, Md.; Alex. Whyte, N. C.; E. O. Smith, La.